

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a method and device for recovering the electrical energy in a motor vehicle driven by at least one electric motor (10). The invention is of the type which comprises a fuel cell (14) for powering the electric motor (10), which is supplied with fuel by means of reformer (42), the fuel flow being controlled according to the power consumption ( $P_{\text{mot}}$ ) of the electric motor (10), and which temporarily produces an excess of fuel when the consumption ( $P_{\text{mot}}$ ) of the electric motor (10) falls. Moreover, the invention is also of the type which comprises energy storage means (16, 76, 78, 80). The inventive method is characterised in that it comprises the following steps in particular, namely: a step (b) consisting in calculating the excess electric power ( $P_{\text{rec}}$ ) which can be produced by the fuel cell (14) and steps consisting in storing (d) and distributing the excess fuel (e), during which the excess electric power ( $P_{\text{rec}}$ ) is stored in storage means (16, 76, 78, 80).